

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Original) A map information device comprising:
a storage unit for map data recorded in a rectangular coordinate system;
a route search unit for searching for a route based on information on two geographical points;
an area generator unit to set an area along the route between the two geographical points; and
a map search unit to search for and output the map data of the area,
wherein the area generator unit establishes the area by adding corrections to correct a width of the area based on latitude values of the route.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended) A map information device comprising:
a storage unit for map data;
a route search unit for searching for a route between two geographical points;
an area generator unit to set an area along the route between the two geographical points;
a processor unit to simplify the figure of the area; and
a map search unit to search for and output the simplified area map data,
wherein the processor unit reduces a number of nodes consisting the route from the nodes included in the area generated by the area generator.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended) A map information device connected to a terminal, comprising:

a route search unit for searching for a route based on information for two geographical points from said terminal;

~~ana~~ route area predictor for predicting enroute stopping points along the route;

an area generator unit to set an search area ~~along the route~~ between the two geographical points; and

a map search unit to search for and output the map data of the search area, wherein the area generator unit ~~establishes an expanded~~expands a range for ~~thean~~ area along the route in the vicinity of the enroute stopping points as the search area.

Claim 4 (Original) A map information device according to claim 3, wherein said route area predictor establishes the enroute stopping points based on the predicted trip time schedule along the route.

Claim 5 (Original) A map information device according to claim 3, wherein the route area predictor establishes the enroute stopping points based on the remaining fuel value information received from the terminal.

Claim 6 (Original) A map information device according to claim 4, wherein the route area predictor establishes the enroute stopping points based on the specified rest break time period or a continuous driving time.

Claim 7 (Original) A map information device according to claim 3 comprising:
a processor unit to simplify the line figure of the route searched by the route search unit,

wherein the processor unit reduces a number of node consisting of the line figure of the route and the map area generator unit sets an area based on a simplified line figure.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended) A map information device according to claim 7:
wherein the processor omits the nodes whose distance to next nodes are equal or less than the predetermined value.

Claim 9 (Original) A map information device according to claim 4 comprising:
a processor unit to simplify the line figure of the route searched by the route search unit,

wherein the processor unit reduces a number of nodes included in the line figure of the route and the map area generator unit sets an area based on a simplified line figure.

Claim 10 (Original) A map information device according to claim 2,
wherein the map search unit subdivides said area into multiple area units, and
determines map data that intersects or is included in the areas by subdivided area
unit.

Claim 11 (Original) A map information device according to claim 7, wherein
the map search unit subdivides said area into multiple area units, and determines
map data that intersects or is included in the area by subdivided area units.

Claim 12 (Original) A map information device according to claim 2, with the
map data based on rectangular coordinates, wherein the area generator unit
establishes the area by adding corrections to correct a width of the area based on
latitude values of the route.

Claim 13 (Original) A map information device according to claim 7, with the
map data based on rectangular coordinates, wherein the area generator unit
establishes the area by adding corrections to correct a width of the area based on
latitude values of the route.

Claim 14 (New) A map information device according to claim 3,
wherein the area generator unit extracts POI at the periphery of the enroute stopping
points and expands the area along the route to include the route to the POI.